

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT	Ship Construction in East Germany	DATE DISTR.	17 February 1953
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. Since the Neptun Werft, Rostock, was taken over as a VEB under East German management, no capital investment funds have been made available for 1952, although money was to be allotted for this purpose according to the agreement reached with the Soviet Control Commission on 1 May 1952.
2. Under the war reparations delivery program, the USSR has ordered three types of passenger ships from East German shipyards. The number of vessels ordered is not known.¹ The respective lengths of the three types are as follows:

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I - 100 meters
II - 65 meters
III - 45 meters

It is believed that they are intended for use on Russian inland waterways. Vessels of type III are to be built at the Rothensee shipyards as far as the superstructure, and then completed at the Stralsund yards. The keels of ships of type I have been laid in Wismar² and Warnemuende³. The steel plate to be used for these vessels is of good quality and is supplied from the USSR.

3. The cable crane installation being constructed by Bleichert Transportanlagenfabrik, Leipzig, of SAG Transmasch, for the Wismar shipyards is scheduled for completion by the end of 1952. Because of the lack of copper, the thinner of the underground cables required for the extensions to the shipyards at Wismar, Warnemuende, and Stralsund are being made of aluminum. Difficulty is being experienced, however, with cables of 240 mm. diameter.
4. A test basin for research in the construction of new types of ships is to be built either in Friedrichsfeld near Berlin or in Stralsund; a definite decision is to be made in the near future.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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Comments:

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1. [redacted] on 4 March 1952, both the Russians and HV Schiffbau proposed that six passenger ships, 800 HP, be constructed at the Staatswerft Rothensee, and four passenger ships, 1,200 HP, at the Mathias Thesen Werft, Wismar. [redacted] 25X1
2. [redacted] the Mathias Thesen Werft Wismar is to deliver five 59 m. river passenger ships as reparations in 1953. [redacted] 25X1
3. Previous reports indicated that six 65 m. river passenger ships were to be constructed on the new slip at the Warnow-Werft Warnemuende, to be delivered in 1953 as reparations. [redacted] 25X1

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